

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Mutsuhito KAINO et al. : Attn: BOX PCT

Serial No. NEW : Docket No. 2001-0988A

Filed July 16, 2001

MAGNETIC RECORDING APPARATUS
[Corresponding to PCT/JP01/01616
Filed March 2, 2001]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. .

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

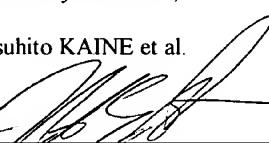
- a. a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
- b. a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
- d. the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

5. A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mutsuhito KAINO et al.

By



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July 16, 2001

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)			ATTY DOCKET NO. 2001-0988A	JC18	Serial No. PCT/PTO 16 JUL 2001 NEW		
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			APPLICANT Mutsuhito KAINÉ et al.				
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)			FILING DATE July 16, 2001		GROUP		
Date Submitted to PTO: July 16, 2001			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,892,741					
	AB	6,009,054					
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
/	AJ	0753851	7/1996	EP			
/	AK	11-175990	7/1999	JP			
/	AL	3-252925	11/1991	JP			
	AM	1146039		CA			
	AN	9-161424		JP			
	AO	235912		KR			
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AP						
	AO						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.